

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 111

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle site in the State of Florida as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of Biscayne National Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2003

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle site in the State of Florida as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of Biscayne National Park, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Tequesta Indians were one of the ear-
 2 liest groups to establish permanent villages in south-
 3 east Florida;

4 (2) the Tequestas had one of only two North
 5 American civilizations that thrived and developed
 6 into a complex social chiefdom without an agricul-
 7 tural base;

8 (3) the Tequesta sites that remain preserved
 9 today are rare;

10 (4) the discovery of the Miami Circle, occupied
 11 by the Tequesta approximately 2,000 years ago, pre-
 12 sents a valuable new opportunity to learn more
 13 about the Tequesta culture; and

14 (5) Biscayne National Park also contains and
 15 protects several prehistoric Tequesta sites.

16 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to direct
 17 the Secretary to conduct a special resource study to deter-
 18 mine the national significance of the Miami Circle site as
 19 well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the
 20 National Park System as part of Biscayne National Park.

21 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) MIAMI CIRCLE.—The term “Miami Circle”
 24 means the property in Miami-Dade County of the
 25 State of Florida consisting of the three parcels de-

1 scribed in Exhibit A in the appendix to the summons
 2 to show cause and notice of eminent domain pro-
 3 ceedings, filed February 18, 1999, in Miami-Dade
 4 County v. Brickell Point, Ltd., in the circuit court
 5 of the 11th judicial circuit of Florida in and for
 6 Miami-Dade County.

7 (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means Biscayne
 8 National Park in the State of Florida.

9 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
 11 rector of the National Park Service.

12 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
 14 date funds are made available, the Secretary shall conduct
 15 a special resource study as described in subsection (b). In
 16 conducting the study, the Secretary shall consult with the
 17 appropriate American Indian tribes and other interested
 18 groups and organizations.

19 (b) COMPONENTS.—In addition to a determination of
 20 national significance, feasibility, and suitability, the spe-
 21 cial resource study shall include the analysis and rec-
 22 ommendations of the Secretary with respect to—

23 (1) which, if any, particular areas of or sur-
 24 rounding the Miami Circle should be included in the
 25 Park;

1 (2) whether any additional staff, facilities, or
2 other resources would be necessary to administer the
3 Miami Circle as a unit of the Park; and

4 (3) any impact on the local area that would re-
5 sult from the inclusion of Miami Circle in the Park.

6 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after comple-
7 tion of the study, the Secretary shall submit a report de-
8 scribing the findings and recommendations of the study
9 to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
10 the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the United
11 States House of Representatives.

12 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
14 essary to carry out this Act.

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